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Maryland HB 1171 – Reproductive Anarchy

By Bob Marshall

If HB 1171 passes the Maryland Senate (already passed the House), this proposed Constitutional Amendment, if approved by voter referendum, will enshrine killing unborn children from conception to full term, and other horrendous public policies. HB 1171 was introduced by Maryland House of Delegates Speaker Adrienne Jones (D-Baltimore).

The language, which deceitfully fails to even mention the word “abortion,” reads:

“THAT EVERY PERSON, AS A CENTRAL COMPONENT OF THE INDIVIDUAL’S RIGHTS TO LIBERTY AND EQUALITY, HAS THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT TO REPRODUCTIVE LIBERTY WHICH INCLUDES THE RIGHT TO MAKE AND EFFECTUATE DECISIONS REGARDING THE INDIVIDUAL’S OWN REPRODUCTION, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE ABILITY TO PREVENT, CONTINUE, OR END THEIR PREGNANCY. THE STATE MAY NOT, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, DENY, BURDEN, OR ABRIDGE THE RIGHT



Bob Marshall was a member of the VA House of Delegates

UNLESS JUSTIFIED BY A COMPELLING STATE INTEREST ACHIEVED BY THE LEAST RESTRICTIVE MEANS.”

In addition to erasing any abortion safety or health protections for women currently in Maryland law and preventing future legislators from enacting laws to protect women and innocent unborn children from abortionists like Dr. Kermit Gosnell, the words “not limited to....” and “fundamental right to reproductive liberty” will create sexual “rights” chaos.

There is no minimum age in HB

1171. Therefore, a twelve-year-old could seek an abortion, sterilization or receive transgender surgery and drugs resulting in sterility without her parents’ consent or knowledge! All minors would be guaranteed “reproductive liberty.”

Currently, the age of consent to sexual intercourse is 16. That means persons 15 and under cannot now legally consent to sex (Statutory Rape).

Under HB 1171 it would be unconstitutional and illegal to criminalize sex between minors and adults because the Democrat Speaker’s Amendment states, “That every person (*not every Adult person*), as a central component of the individual’s (*not Adult individual’s*) rights to liberty and equality, has the fundamental right to reproductive liberty which includes the right to make and effectuate decisions regarding the individual’s own reproduction including, but not limited to, the ability to prevent, continue, or end their pregnancy.”

Those who cannot afford contraceptive/abortifacient drugs, abortions or transgender operations would have them tax-paid so as to not “burden or abridge” the person (no age limit) from exercising his or her reproductive liberty “rights” which includes killing their unborn

children and mutilating their bodies.

The words of HB 1171, that Maryland shall not “deny, burden, or abridge” reproductive rights can easily be applied to sex between adults and minors and pornography if it serves “reproductive liberty.” It could also compel a woman to be fitted with an IUD, undergo sterilization or abortion even against her will if “justified by a compelling state interest.”

“Compelling state interest” had been used to justify compulsory sterilization under a Eugenics law in Virginia. Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, wrote for the U.S. Supreme Court in *Buck v. Bell* (1927):

“The principle that sustains compulsory vaccination is broad enough to cover cutting the Fallopian tubes. *Jacobson v. Massachusetts*, 197 U.S. 11. Three generations of imbeciles are enough.”

Where does the Speaker’s bill spell out exactly what is meant by “compelling state interest?” Under which circumstances could the state require sterilization or forced abortion? Would preventing an out of wedlock birth, or imposing population control for the sake of “climate change” be a “compelling state interest?” What if the Medicaid health insurance budget for the poor became burdensome?

In 2011, then Democrat Vice President Joe Biden during his visit to China was quoted by National Public Radio, hardly a conservative news outlet:

“But as I was talking to some of your leaders, you share a similar concern here in China. You have no safety net. Your policy has been



Maryland State House is lately the scene of many attempts to facilitate abortion

one which I fully understand — I’m not second-guessing — of one child per family.”

While then VP Biden, now the President, went on to say it will be harder to support the elderly with a one-child policy, he did not question the human rights violation of China’s forced abortion policy.

HB 1171 goes far beyond the

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infamous 1973 Supreme Court *Roe v. Wade* decision. Under *Roe*, states could ban tax paid abortions, require parental notice before a minor has an abortion, enact waiting periods before undergoing abortion, uphold conscience protections for medical personnel or institutions which do not want to participate in abortion,

preserve the tax-exempt status for religious hospitals to not perform abortions or transgender surgeries.

If Speaker Jones does not intend to undo these sensible and meager protections which abortion proponents consider a burden, she should pull HB 1171. If she wants these consequences enacted, she needs to be truthful and tell Marylanders exactly what this constitutional amendment will require or permit.

It is a cynical manipulation of voters to avoid the word “abortion” and the fact that it kills children. Neither the Ballot Referendum language, nor the actual Constitutional Amendment contain the word “abortion.”

The proposed Ballot question reads:

“THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT CONFIRMS AN INDIVIDUAL’S FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT TO THE INDIVIDUAL’S OWN REPRODUCTIVE LIBERTY AND PROVIDES THE STATE MAY NOT, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, DENY,

See MARYLAND, page 6

Dangerous Bills in the MD State Legislature

As we all know by now, the US Supreme Court is hearing the case *Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health*. If the court rules for the plaintiff, it will overturn *Roe v Wade*. Abortion supporters have always known that the *Roe v Wade* ruling occurred on shaky Constitutional basis and feared its eventual demise. Hence they have been scurrying for decades to enshrine the right to murder a baby in state-level laws.

Now that the doom of *Roe* appears to be imminent, pro-aborts are stepping up their pace. They certainly are in Maryland. Please bear in mind that both the House and Senate in Annapolis are under Democrat pro-abortion control. On Friday, March 11, the House passed two abortion-related bills. HB 937 will take millions of our tax dollars and set it aside in a fund established to train new abortionists every year. By the way, these abortionist wanna-bees need not be physicians. HB 1171 is a proposed amendment to Maryland's constitution to make abortion a constitutional right, making attempts to pass pro-life legislation impossible without that amendment's repeal.

Both bills now go to the Senate for their consideration. If HB

1171 passes, it cannot be vetoed by Governor Hogan. It will be placed on the ballot for vote by Maryland citizens. Of course the wording on the ballot will be crafted to make it utterly confusing to the average voter, as it was 30 years ago when SB 162 was on the ballot.

A third bill started in the Senate. It is SB 669. The wording in that bill would have had the effect of rendering impossible to prosecution

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of post-birth infanticide. In the wake of pressure from several groups such as Maryland Right to Life and American Center for Law and Justice, the bill's primary sponsor, Senator Smith, pulled it from consideration. The House companion bill, HB 626, will hopefully suffer a similar fate. Even if that happens, we know that the pro-aborts will simply try to bring those bills back next year.

If nothing else, all this emphasizes

the importance of state-wide and local elections. Our entire state is up for election this coming November. Primary elections are on July 19th this year. It is not too early to start researching the candidates for the various offices. I probably need not say this, but one party in particular has as a plank in its party platform the promotion of baby-killing, along with other planks promoting the mockery of marriage. To keep certain wags from having strokes, I refrain from naming them, but they have on several occasions named themselves.

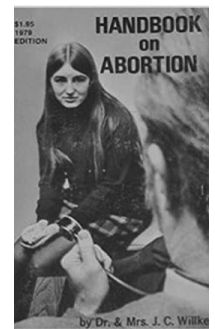
So do some research on the candidates. Get involved in their local campaigns. Plan to vote – in person – not mail-in ballot, lest it wind up in some warehouse in the desert. And of course, pray your Rosaries.

Editor's note: the statuses of these bills in the State legislature is constantly changing. Between the time of this writing and the arrival of this newsletter in your mailbox, much can happen. Please check on these bills on the legislature's website. Of course *Defend Life* will work to keep you abreast of the current picture.

Remembering Jack Willke

By Bob Boehman, President – Frederick County Right to Life

Editor's introduction: Dr. John C. "Jack" Willke and his wife Barbara, both now deceased, are considered founders of what is called a "second wave of the pro-life movement". Dr. Willke was a physician and his wife a registered nurse. Dr. Willke was a founder and former president of the National Right to Life Committee. Jack and Barbara co-authored a book called *Handbook on Abortion*. That book provided data and arguments to counter the pro-abortion arguments being put forth at that time. Barbara passed away in 2013 and Jack in 2015.



See WILLKE, page 15

Zachary King with a Strategy to Stop Abortions

On Tuesday, February 22, 2022, a Defend Life lecture was held at the Rock Creek Council of the Knights of Columbus in Bethesda, MD. A special invitation was put out to clergy and many were in attendance. The speaker was Zachary King, a former high wizard of the “Church” of Satan who assisted in over 100 abortions. King relayed both his story of falling into Satanism and his conversion away from it to the Catholic Church.

King began his talk by detailing his interest in magic at the age of 10. He was told by both his parents and Baptist preacher that there is no such thing as magic. However, owing to the influence of some school friends, he became interested in casting spells and at the age of 10, was casting spells for money and “found” large sums of it. The money findings happened several times. He wound up casting spells every day.

After suffering a sexual assault at the age of 11, he found a group of other kids who engaged in magic with him. They and adults in the group introduced him to marijuana, alcohol, cigarettes. They also got him involved in making porn movies. An adult in the group informed him that the group was a satanic coven. They asked him, a 12-year old, if he wanted to join. He did so because he was by then a porn addict and couldn’t get it otherwise, being underage. So he went through a ceremony whereby he denounced Christ’s suffering for him. One part of the ceremony caught my ears. He described being given a wheel with a cross in it. He was instructed to turn the wheel upside down and to break the



Zachary King speaks at Rock Creek Council Knights of Columbus

arms of the cross in a downward direction. He just described the so-called “peace sign” popularized by the 1960s hippies.

Just before he turned 15, he assisted at his first abortion. He continued to do them. When he sought affiliation with another coven when he went to college, he realized that if he wanted the devil to give him something, he had to render something to the devil – an abortion.

At 21 he became a high wizard and was still killing babies. He talked though, of three abortion attempts that failed. As he was preparing for one of them, he could hear Catholics praying the Rosary. The Hail Mary prayer was quite audible. The woman herself was a satanist who deliberately got pregnant for the express purpose of murdering the child to obtain a

higher position in her coven. The baby wound up being born alive on the spot and was taken away by a social worker, presumably to safety. Sometime later he researched “failed” abortions by other wizards; the common theme there was always the praying of the Rosary.

After a life of sin and afraid that he sold his soul to the devil, he tried to cover his tracks and escape to Oklahoma. He still did magic. Trying to get into Canada, he went to Vermont for he was told that there was an unattended border crossing point. It was attended. So he wound up working several odd jobs. While selling jewelry to a woman, she, out of the blue, told him, “the Blessed Mother is calling you into her army”. She then dropped into his hand a blessed Miraculous Medal. Immediately he had an experience where he saw the

Blessed Mother. He realized then that he never sold his soul to the devil and was convinced of the truth of Catholicism. Mary then told him that his job was to end abortion. After that, he found himself back at the store with the woman who gave him the medal. She told him where she went to Mass.

The next day he went to Mass at that church and saw Jesus on the altar during the Consecration.

He took instruction from the parish priest and was received into the Church in May of 2008.

One day, while at adoration, he inquired of Our Lord about Mary's charge to him to end abortion. Mary appeared and said to him "use what you know". He knew that abortion is a satanic sacrifice and that the blood of abortion fuels Satan's machine. He also recalled that Rosaries stopped the abortions at which he assisted. He also knew that the holiest tool in the world was Holy Mass. "If you could bring a Mass to the abortion clinic, you would stop it". He continued, "if you brought a Eucharistic procession, people

praying Rosaries and an image of Our Lady of Guadalupe who's pregnant with Jesus to the battle, you'd win".

King mentioned in a book that he wrote, that he added a quote

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from Albert Einstein: "the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again while expecting a different result", and that we

cannot fight the spiritual battle with only physical means.

He contacted the Los Angeles exorcist for assistance with a possessed woman. The exorcist mentioned that as a result of King's book, he says Mass and performs an exorcism at a local abortuary. That mill went from being open seven days a week with seventy-seven abortions to three days a week and no abortions. He then relayed that an abortionist was converted because of Mass at the mill with a Eucharistic procession.

He concluded by stating that his ministry in promoting these Masses and Eucharistic processions at mills is called All Saints Ministry. The website for that is <http://www.allsaintsministry.org>.

We have had Masses at abortuaries several times in the past. Just up the road from where King spoke is the mill in which Leroy Carhart operates a killing center. Several times in the evening we've had Masses in an adjoining parking lot, from the back of a van. These Masses were followed by Eucharistic processions that encircled the building housing Carhart's mill. When Carhart was in his townhouse-office complex in Germantown, one of the neighboring offices was owned by two devout Catholics. Several times we had Masses there, against the wall dividing the two office suites. I don't believe, though, that any Masses ever occurred during "business hours". Since King relayed that his abortions were thwarted *while Rosaries were in progress* causes me to believe that this timing is a factor to consider.



Attendees listen intently to Zachary King's talk

STOP ABORTION NOW!

But I Say To You

by a Catholic deacon

Somewhere in America...

No matter how much I'm told I should visit my elderly mother, a visit can be a real cramp to my busy schedule. So I consider it great fortune when I learned of my mother's kidney dialysis schedule. With only a little fuss, I was able to switch my schedule so that, on only those days, I stop by her apartment. And—surprise, surprise—she isn't home. Naturally, I leave a note telling her I was there. She feels good that I cared enough to stop by and I feel good that I haven't shirked my responsibility of trying to visit my mother.

I shared my little plan with a friend and she called me a hypocrite. She says I don't get any credit for trying—that my real intention on the days I visit is not to meet my mother, but just the opposite. She says I go out of my way to make sure my visits are unfruitful. I defended myself by reminding her that I always remain open to visiting my mother when I stopped by. If the door opened when I knocked, I'd

stay for a visit. But my friend wasn't buying it; she said my intention is bad so it makes my action bad.

Now...my friend is a big proponent of Natural Family Planning (NFP) as a 'moral' way to space out births. She's busy like me and can come up with a million little reasons why "next year" is always better for having a child. So, I asked her, when you visit your husband on the days you're convinced you're not fertile, isn't your intention to engage in the marital act but avoid pregnancy? Isn't your intention to separate the marriage act from the procreative act? Isn't this what makes artificial contraception evil—distorting the marriage act by intending it as a means to only one end, and in the process, objectifying your spouse as something to be used for gratification? So, isn't your intention the same as those who establish infertile times through chemical or physical means?

She tried to defend herself by saying she was always open to life...just in case her calculations were off and someone 'was home.' And then she got my point.

The present language of HB 1171 would hardly pass "truth in advertising" requirements. If the supporters of HB 1171 want "anything goes" abortion and sexual chaos for minors, they should be honest and not hide behind rhetoric designed to portray HB 1171 simply as a measure to provide "liberty."

In reality, HB 1171 will endanger and entice more women to sentence innocent unborn children who have no voice, liberty or power to protect their own lives. The Speaker's HB 1171 will also eliminate parents' ability to guide their minor children to protect them from harmful sexual behaviors and physical and mental abuse.

Moreover, legal abortion is NOT "safe" for women. The Charlotte Lozier Institute, using Medicaid claims data over 17 years of 423,000 verified abortions found that: "the rate of abortion-related emergency room visits following a chemical abortion increased over 500% from 2002 through 2015."

Please take the following actions if the Maryland senate has not already voted upon HB 1171 by the time you receive this issue.

Go to <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Members/District>. Click the Lookup button, enter your address and zip, to find your Maryland state senator's contact information. Email and call your state senator to oppose HB 1171. Share this alert with others across Maryland and ask them to do the same.

Note: Bob Marshall is a former member of the Virginia House of Delegates and Research Director for the American Life League.

MARYLAND, from page 2

BURDEN OR ABRIDGE THE RIGHT UNLESS JUSTIFIED BY A COMPELLING STATE INTEREST ACHIEVED BY THE LEAST RESTRICTIVE MEANS."

Prior to *Roe vs Wade* in 1973, the law in Maryland affirmed that abortion took the life of a child, and penalized abortionists who advertised or provided, "any

poison, drug, mixture, preparation, medicine or noxious thing ... for the purpose of causing the ... abortion of any woman pregnant with child, at any period of her pregnancy ..."

In 1973, forty-three of fifty states expressly recognized that abortion kills a human person, a child, or abortion was designated as manslaughter or second-degree murder, with penalties only for the abortionist. How far we have fallen!

BE NOT AFRAID!

Why the Protest of Archdiocese of Baltimore's Mask Mandate Happened

Until last month, the Archdiocese of Baltimore was forcing its school students to suffocate themselves out of craven fear of the Covid virus. On February 4, approximately 100 faithful Catholics, many of them parents of these children, gathered outside the offices of the Archdiocese of Baltimore's offices to make their displeasure known. They were led by Duffy and Rochelle Kane. A few days later, the archdiocese rescinded the mandates. I was told that they planned to do that anyway, but believe that the protest made clear to the chancery that no more would parents allow their children to be so mistreated in the future.

On February 13, I had the honor of interviewing the Kanes about their actions on February 4. Rochelle is a lifelong Catholic and has been in the Baltimore archdiocese for 35+ years. Duffy was received into the Church in 2018. Along the way, he learned of the corruption that lies within the hierarchy of the Church, and the Baltimore archdiocese in particular. He mentioned as an example the hiring by Archbishop Lori of Howard Russell as an advisor on racism, ignoring the fact that Russell was on an advisory board of the Human Rights Campaign.

They became acquainted with Church Militant Resistance and became area captains; in other words, they represent Church Militant in the Baltimore/DC area. When Church Militant had their permits rescinded for their presence during the USCCB meeting, the Kanes played a key role in providing witnesses during the hearings and CM's permits were reinstated.

"Once I know what the truth is, bishops are corrupt, hierarchy is



Duffy Kane at Archdiocese of Baltimore offices

75% homosexual, there are boys that are being abused, they're murdering babies, murdering babies for profit.. once a human being knows that, if you choose not to do anything about it, you will be culpable. You will be held to account."

We discussed at length the role of the Traditional Latin Mass in inspiring a strong stance for the truth. They pointed out (and I can vouch from my experiences) that while a typical parish priest knows that homosexual conduct is wrong, he by and large will refuse to preach on it for he knows that he will suffer the wrath of the hierarchy. Not so the priests offering the Latin Mass, particularly in orders dedicated to Church Tradition.

They both said that "more people

have to get out and fight". Their resistance group is involved in Rosary rallies, email campaigns, etc. Their Church Militant chapter joined forces with a group of local parents under the umbrella of a facebook group called Parents for the Return to Normal in the AOB Schools. They did get ample coverage from Church Militant.

Several times they expressed both their willingness to stand up to fight, and their wish that many others would do the same. As I write this, what comes to mind is the recent victory that Sister Dede Byrne had when her medical license, suspended over her refusal to take the covid vaccine, was reinstated in the face of good Catholic lawyers announcing their intention to take legal action on Sister's behalf.



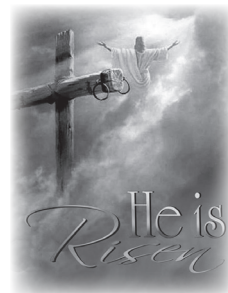
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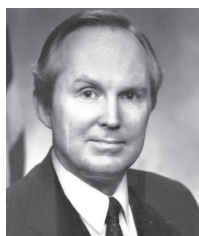
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*April 17, 2022 Anno Domini
Easter Sunday*



Dear Friend of **DEFEND LIFE**,

Sam Bogley RIP



Sam Bogley, former Maryland Lieutenant Governor, went to his Eternal Reward on March 10.

I moved to Baltimore in 1977. Shortly thereafter, I was impressed by the zealous Pro-Lifers I met in Annapolis on Monday nights during the 1978 Legislative Session. They lobbied Acting Governor Blair Lee III who was a descendant of the great Robert E. Lee. George Washington, the Father of Our Country, and General Robert E. Lee are two of our greatest American heroes!

1978 was an election year and Maryland was about to elect a Governor. It was a 4-man race in the Democrat Primary. It included Blair Lee, who had succeeded Governor Marvin Mandel who had been forced to resign, former State Senator Harry Hughes from the Eastern Shore, and 2 others. Harry Hughes wisely chose Sam Bogley, a staunch Pro-Lifer as his running mate.

Catholic Pro-lifers worked very hard for the Hughes-Bogley ticket believing that if Bogley was Pro-Life, Hughes certainly was also Pro-Life. **They were wrong!** Hughes was narrowly elected in the 4-way race possibly because he was endorsed by the extremely liberal Baltimore Sun, and partly because he had resigned as a cabinet member under Mandel who had done some ethically questionable things. Another complicating factor was possible marital infidelity between Hughes and his wife, Patricia. Still another complicating factor was that Patricia Hughes, unbeknownst to Sam Bogley, was a flaming **Pro-Abort!** **Maryland politics certainly are interesting!**

Here are just 2 examples of what the Bogleys had to endure while serving 4 years with Governor Harry Hughes:

- On the very night of the gubernatorial inauguration in **January 1979**, Sam and his beautiful wife Rita were somehow assigned to in **an unheated room** at the Naval-Marine Corp Stadium.
- Rita Bogley, during an event in the rotunda of the State House, was surrounded by **2** concentric circles of **witches** encircling her, each moving in opposite directions, while screeching **Satanic Chants**. The circles began converging around Rita, who had to be rescued by a State Trooper bodyguard from these 2 circles of **witches**. **Rita** had just become pregnant with her 8th child, Vincent Paul, who sadly lived only **5** days after birth.

But here are the good news:

- Sam and Rita served **valiantly** during his **4** years as Lieutenant Governor.
- Every night Sam would lead his **7** children in prayer. Sam was a godly man although not yet Catholic. He was raised an Anglican. He and Rita were high school sweethearts.
- Secretly Sam had taken private instructions from Monsignor John Hogan, the legendary pastor of Sacred Heart in Bowie. One Sunday when the other **8** Bogleys went to receive Holy Communion, Sam simply joined them to their utter amazement and delight.
- One of his most tenacious children is Laura Bogley, who has courageously led the fight to stop the evil Pro-Abortion legislation that is being heaped upon us in Annapolis. While on his death bed, Sam urged his daughter to get back to Annapolis **to continue the good fight!**

Well done good and faithful servant!

My 49th March for Life

It was the 49th March for Life for me. I attended my first on January 22, 1974, while living in my beloved Richmond, Virginia. Whatever happens with Dobbs, we must keep marching and working smartly to make abortion not only **ILLEGAL** but more importantly **UNTHINKABLE!**

Here are some of my friends whom I met along the March:

- **Father Shenan Bouquet**, head of Human Life International, who travels the world fighting the evils of abortion and contraception.
- **Paula Shute**, a former member of our yearly **DEFEND LIFE** Face the Truth Tour Core team, was acting as an escort for a huge group of students from Ave Maria in Naples, Florida
- **Julie Easter**, a staunch ACTIVIST from Garrett Valley, Pennsylvania who has done it all.
- **Bob Brown** and a group of young Pro-Life students. Bob is the long time President of Hartford County Right to Life. He teaches math at Essex Community College and is the proud father of 4 boys. He had just returned from a mission trip to Uganda.
- **Randall Terry**, who needs no introduction, wearing a beautiful fur coat, had come all the way from his home in Memphis, Tennessee.
- **Mark Roepke**, who specializes in providing Audio-Visual coverage at dozens of Pro-Life events, was doing just that the at the end of the March for Life in front of the Supreme Court.
- **Seminarian Danny Morrison** from Mount Saint Mary's Seminary will soon be the third priest in his family to be ordained. How proud his parents Doctors Eric and Grace must be!



Long Live Christ Our King!

Jack Ames

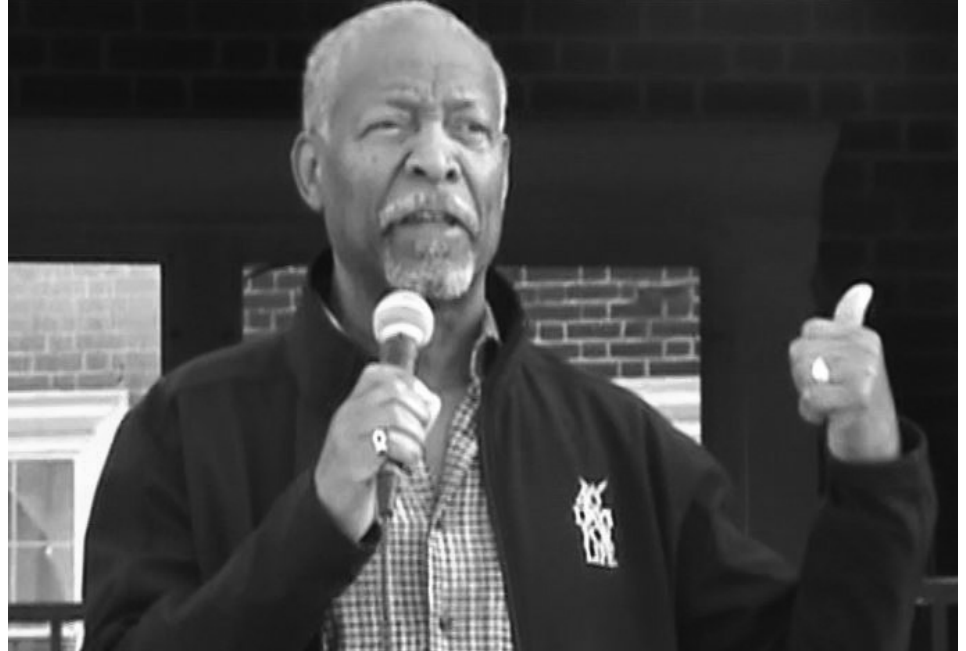
Jack Ames, P.E., Director

Dr. Haywood Robinson Addresses 40 Days Participants in Catonsville

On March 19 2022, the Catonsville 40 Days for Life campaign held their kick-off rally in front of Chin Baptist Church, with about 60-70 pro-lifers in attendance. This happens to be directly across the street from the Hillcrest abortuary. Doctor Haywood Robinson gave the keynote address. He and his wife, Dr. Noreen Robinson, were abortionists until 1986 when they both converted to Christianity and repented of their abortion practices. They became staunch pro-life activists. Noreen Robinson passed away last August. Haywood Robinson is now Director of Medical Affairs and Education for 40 Days for Life and resides in Texas.

Robinson wasn't the only speaker. The event opened with an address by Michael Selton, a first-year seminarian for the Archdiocese of Baltimore. He pointed out that it is our duty as Christians to defend the most innocent life in the world, and that we cannot say that abortion is "someone else's problem". Noting that the rally was happening on the Feast of St Joseph, he stated that we can turn to St Joseph because St Joseph is the head of the Holy Family and the pillar of families. We must take action as Joseph did, and ask his prayers as well as Mary's and the other saints.

Next we heard from Pastor Jim Bowers of United World Missions. He led off by reading Psalm 13, which asks "how long, oh Lord". He told us that he prays that mothers, fathers, doctors, elected representatives would have their



Dr Haywood Robinson addresses 40 Days for Life Rally in Catonsville

hearts changed. God can do that through our witness of standing on the sidewalks praying.

Then Dr. Robinson took the microphone. Offering some "former insider" perspective, he pointed out that abortuaries pay their staffs well because otherwise they wouldn't be

**God can do that through
our witness of standing
on the sidewalks
praying.**

able to convince anyone to work with them. A fair chunk of those salaries come from our tax dollars.

He also recalled to us that baby-slaughter was always a sordid part of human history. We read of that in the Old Testament, when God

punished Israelites who took up the practice of sacrificing their babies to false gods.

He gave a brief history of his life and how God had given him the grace to convert from being an abortionist to a pro-life activist. Then he remarked that "God has blessed you to be in the greatest fight in the history of humankind". He reminded us that we pray for babies to be saved, for abortuary workers to be converted, and for the abortuaries to close. We do make a difference, even if that difference happens in another part of the world.

Father Scott Kady gave some closing remarks. He asked us to imagine what would be if the 62 million children aborted in the United States were allowed to live, grow up, pursue their lives' passions.

See ROBINSON, page 12

A Primer on Assisted Suicide

During the 2021 legislative session in Annapolis, a measure to legalize physician-assisted suicide in Maryland was narrowly defeated – by one vote. While some might be tempted to rejoice at that, they do so only by ignoring the danger that is evident in such a slim margin. In a truly ordered society, such a measure would never have been proposed for a vote; had it been done, the measure should have gone down in resounding defeat. It was defeated but just barely. Such a narrow margin is way too close for comfort.

We have seen the relentless march to legalize physician-assisted suicide, PAS for short. It is already legal in eleven other states, including Washington DC just to our south. We know they will try again in Annapolis.

The 2022 legislative session is underway. In order to prepare for the inevitable PAS onslaught, either this session or later, Defend Life and Our Voices for Freedom co-sponsored an all-day seminar in Frederick MD on Saturday January 8th. The featured speaker was Jason Negri, a lawyer associated with Patients' Rights Council. PRC is the only pro-life organization that has as its sole focus the protection of innocent people who are at the ending stages of their lives, owing to age, illness or disability. Their website is www.patientsrightscouncil.org. Readers are urged to visit their site and avail themselves of the resources as they participate in the efforts to keep PAS out of Maryland and to defeat it elsewhere.

Negri stressed the importance



Jason Negri gives pointers on combatting assisted suicide in Frederick, MD

of informing ourselves of the various aspects of the issue. He mentioned the difference between PAS, where the suicidal individual initiates contact with a doctor, versus euthanasia, where the patient death is initiated by the doctor, often without the knowledge or consent of the patient. The latter is happening quite a bit; it is rife in the Netherlands and we all certainly remember the case of Terri Schiavo in Florida.

He noted an interesting trend. The assisted suicide proponents, by and large, are wealthy white people. They are generally used to living life on their terms and have a deep-seated fear of losing their autonomy and the ability to enjoy

their privileges and activities. They also fear pain and suffering. Negri didn't draw this parallel that I'm going to mention, but there is much intersectionality between this group of people and the liberals who occupy prominent places in society – the elites, if you will. They also tend to eschew any religious faith and morality.

He cautioned against the targeting of every instance of assisted suicide that occurs and rather suggested that we focus on the trends, pointing out to proponents of the “option” that what might start as an “option” for some may well turn into an expectation for everybody. The proponents mentioned in my previous sacraments clamor for the

option while failing (or refusing) to grasp that assisted suicide will target the vulnerable people who can't exercise options that others can. These vulnerable include the poor who are often at the mercy of health insurance carriers who consider assisted suicide more economical to cover as opposed to treatments that might cure the person. Often these carriers overrule the doctors who are trying to treat their patients. One of the audience remarked that "every individual is looked at with a price tag". All that is to say that cost containment will become a motivator in coercing a sick person to assisted suicide if the latter is legalized.

We are about the protection of

**FIGHT
ABORTION!**
*Your very life
depends on it.*

the medically vulnerable, whether that vulnerability is from illness, disability, age, dementia. Proponents of assisted suicide are insinuating to these vulnerable (whether deliberately or not) that they should quietly get out of the way as they are "living lives unworthy of life". Elder abuse is also facilitated by assisted

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suicide, often by the mere presence of the lethal drugs in the vulnerable person's home. These are real occurrences and must be brought to the attention of citizens as assisted suicide legalization is considered.

Negri pointed out that in several states, attempts to legalize suicide

failed. But the proponents of it were relentless. Year after year they kept at it until finally they succeeded. We have to be just as relentless in our opposition to it.

Negri emphasized that "euthanasia" and "assisted suicide" are NOT the same, and that we should not conflate the two. But looking at Europe, we see that a nation that legalizes assisted suicide will end up legalizing euthanasia.

Some strategy points are really common-sense measures. Keep simple what you are going to say. Share accurate information. Know your audience so that you can present the information appropriately. Do not play into bigotries of the other side; they want to portray this as a religious issue. Therefore we should make sure that opposition to assisted suicide is properly articulated without reference to God and religious laws, true though they are. Talk of a personal story if you can. Ask questions to get people to think about what might happen by legalizing assisted suicide.

ROBINSON, from page 10

We might not have had a pandemic, a war in the Ukraine. We might have had another Mother Teresa. He then gave a final prayer. Afterwards, all the participants gathered together for a group shot behind a 40 Days banner, with the Hillcrest abortuary in the background.

For more information on the 40 Days for Life campaigns in your locality, visit <https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/vigil-search.aspx> and enter your state in the search box.



A group shot is taken of Catonsville Kick-Off rally participants; the Hillcrest Abortuary is in the background

A Successful Catholic Men's Conference

By Duffy Kane

On Saturday, March 19, 2022, the Catholic Men's Fellowship held their 2022 annual Men's Conference at St. Joseph Church in Fullerton, Md. After a two-year postponement because of covid restrictions, it was clear from very early that morning that the conference would be a great success. The parking lot was full at 7am, and the hall was filled with the clamor of grateful, Catholic men in joyous and meaningful fellowship, discussing a wide range of topics pertinent to Catholicism today. While the topics varied from abortion to family issues, it was clear that the crowd eagerly anticipated the discussion on the topic and purpose of the conference: the Real Power and Presence of our Savior in the Eucharist.

Mass was celebrated by Archbishop William Lori, followed by a wonderful opening talk by the parish's pastor, Fr. Jessie Bolger who appropriately focused the conference on the topic of spiritual framing, and thus set the stage for several very powerful talks concerning the life experiences of the Catholic community leaders who would follow his opening remarks.

One such speaker was Frank Kolarek, founder of the League of Dreams. Frank gave a heart-warming account of his life playing baseball, comparing it to the deeper, more personal journey of the Eucharistic experience in his own life. His story of being a husband and father, and his work with disabled children as well as the challenges of his life were all summed up in his most impactful statement, "if today were your last

day, how hard would you play?" His message was clear: his Eucharistic journey was at the center of his success in a faith-filled life and that his appeal to the crowd was to make our lives a Eucharistic journey as well.

Fr. James Boric, Rector of the Basilica of the Assumption, gave a most powerful talk on "winning back the night in Baltimore". Giving an excellent account of how Eucharistic Adoration lowered the murder rate by up to 90% in select Mexican cities, he spoke of his plan to implement

**If today were your
last day, how hard
would you play?**

24-hour Eucharistic adoration at the Basilica in Baltimore. In a dynamic and faith-filled speech, he proposed his intentions to take back the city of Baltimore as well as "take back the church" from "anything that is not of God". Thunderous applause echoed the crowd's support of the idea and Fr. Boric's request for participation in his effort to sustain 24-hour Adoration at the Basilica. Fr. Boric also addressed his commitment to "shut down Planned Parenthood" in Baltimore city, a commitment behind which we as Catholics must all align.

Director of Prison Ministry, Reverend Seigfreid Presberry gave a powerful talk on the joys and sorrows encountered when we consume the Eucharist and posed a poignant rhetorical question: "Can you drink from the cup and eat the bread"? His talk challenged all who listened to his message and considered the Real

Presence of our Lord in the Eucharist and our worth and responsibility in doing so.

Michael Skinner, Founder of Gratia Reflections reminded us of the power of our God and how He can turn the "worst things into the best things". His insightful example of the transformative power of our God was none other than the Cross itself in that he so accurately expounded on how 2000 years ago the Cross of our Savior must have been viewed as a terrible symbol of the world's inhumanity, but that today our God's infinite wisdom and power has transformed the Cross into a symbol of salvation. If we had been alive to witness the Crucifixion of Jesus, we would hardly have looked at it as if it were a wonderful thing. Yet today it stands as the only means by which we are reconciled to our Creator. Skinner gave a personal insight as to how Jesus "couldn't stand the thought of being without us in eternity", and so He "took the nails" of the crucifixion for us. Skinner's anecdote about car trouble that he had some years ago was very beautifully related to a larger fact that "We have major car trouble in the world today, Sin" and that "We have no earthly power to fix it" His solution was of course the power of prayer and the Eucharist. His message was well received.

The Most Reverend Joseph Coffey riveted the crowd with a powerful account of his 28 years of service with the Navy Chaplains Corps. He made the crowd aware that Catholic service in the armed forces placed him in direct oversight of the "largest diocese in the world". Bishop Coffey

See CONFERENCE, page 15

The Continued Destruction of Human Life by Abortion is Predicated on Opinion Over Fact

By Bryan Kemper, Youth Outreach Director, Priests for Life

So many are awaiting the opinion in the Dobbs vs. Jackson Supreme Court case that was heard last month. The results of this case could be the death knell to Roe v. Wade and bring abortion laws back under the control of individual states.

I stood outside the Supreme Court on Dec 1st as lawyers from each side argued their case with the nine justices and activists gathered outside the court voiced their position

Everybody is entitled to his own views; everybody is not entitled to his own facts.

on abortion. There were emotional signs, speeches and chants from people on both sides of the issue.

As a proponent of free speech, I welcome opposing views. It is so important to our country that we keep free speech alive. This doesn't mean I agree with you, just that I support your right to have opposing views and express them.

“Everybody is entitled to his own views; everybody is not entitled to his own facts.” - James R. Schlesinger, former U.S. Secretary of Defense.

While many people have said similar things, Schlesinger's quote underscores that facts will always outweigh opinions. When it comes to something like abortion, we will

always have opposing views and there will always be disagreement. But this does not change the facts that must be weighed when deciding the morality and legality of abortion.

Emotional arguments do work well when debating something like abortion, which is why most who argue for the continued legality of abortion rely on them so heavily. Most people have heard the main talking points of the pro-abortion side:

- What about the woman who gets pregnant from rape?
- What about the baby that will be born into poverty?
- What about the young girl who might not be able to go to school or have a career?

I can go on and on with emotional and situational pleas to keep abortion legal and not reverse Roe v. Wade. The problem is these are all based on tugging emotional heart strings instead of focusing on the most important fact of the argument: the personhood of the human being killed in an abortion.

Human biology and development are facts, not opinions. The union of the sperm and egg to create a unique individual human being with his or her own DNA is a biological fact. It is often argued that a fetus is only a potential life but that's a total fallacy. The sperm and egg by themselves are most certainly a potential human life, but once united the potential has been fulfilled and now the life will grow and develop in stages: zygote, embryo, fetus, infant, toddler, teenager, adult. These are all stages in the life of a human being.

We must look back in history to times when other groups of human

beings were denied their right to life because of someone's opinion. We can look at the Dred Scott Supreme Court decision that upheld a law asserting that Black people were only three-fifths human. We can look back to the Nazis who robbed Jews of their human dignity based on the opinion of a madman. If we allow opinion to trump basic scientific facts, we allow groups of humans to be destroyed and denied their very right to life.

There is truth in some of the emotional arguments for keeping abortion legal, there are compelling situations when I can understand why someone would want to consider abortion. But I won't give credence to these emotional arguments because there is one fact that trumps all arguments and opinions: Every single human being conceived has a right to life.

A unique individual human being with his or her own DNA is a biological fact.

If you apply any of the pro-abortion arguments to a 3-month-old, a 1-year-old or a teenager, not one of them would justify the direct killing of these children. The age and stage of development of any human person cannot define the intrinsic value of that person. Their lives matter from the moment their lives begin, which – according to science – is at the moment of fertilization.

For us to argue that we have the right to withhold their rights until such a time as we think they deserve them is ageism and allows for the brutal violence against humans in the womb to continue. Abortion is an act of violence that ends the developing life of a human and to argue for its legality is to argue for legal homicide.

Roe v. Wade must be overturned and the right to life of all humans, born and unborn, must be protected. Any other outcome is insanity as it allows opinion to trump fact and allows us to continue the violence we claim to detest in any other setting.

Bryan Kemper is the youth outreach director for Priests for Life and the founder of its youth outreach Stand True. He is the author of Social Justice Begins in the Womb.

WILLKE, from page 3

Mr. Boehman's remembrance:

My parents Richard and Ruth Boehman lived in the Northside area of Cincinnati, Ohio, on Florida Avenue and before that on Pell Street.

Both residences were within a few blocks of St. Boniface Church and School. My older brother believes that Dr Willke lived just down the street from my parents at one of those two residences and attended St. Boniface church, where we attended Mass. In those days when kids walked to school unchaperoned and shopping was done in local mom-and-pop grocery and seafood stores, and folks sat on their front porches to greet and talk with passersby, neighbors really got to know one another, what

profession they were in, and where they lived. My parents and family were merely neighbors and very good friends with Dr. Jack Willke.

All of us kids remember Dr. Willke as a kind gentleman who made house calls, always carrying with him his little black leather bag of equipment and common medicines. There were no Urgent Cares or hospital waiting rooms. Dr. Willke was our conduit to the medical world. He was the one who diagnosed my father with a heart attack and admitted him to the hospital for treatment. We went to visit Dad many times, and on one occasion the good Dr. Willke was there following up on Dad's progress. Mind you, the staff at the hospital was competent but Dr Willke was checking up on a neighbor and a friend. He did not need to be there. He was just that kind of man!

Dr Willke treated us kids for every common childhood ailment of the time such as mumps, measles, and chickenpox. He provided us with prescriptions that he usually carried with him, treated us with salves, and of course, provided us with the "shot" of whatever we needed at the time. We all unanimously remember the shots!

After the family moved to one of the seven hills of Cincinnati, Mt Airy, Dr. Willke and my parents remained friends until the family relocated to Geneva, New York in the summer of 1962. At that point, the trail of recollections from us kids ended.

Note: I write this because when I met Jack Ames recently at a rally against abortion bills in Annapolis, we got to talking and when he found out where I was born – well – one thing led to another, and he mentioned Dr Willke and I knew instantly he was our family doctor.

CONFERENCE, from page 13

risked his life in numerous dangerous situations serving our armed forces and our beloved America at large. And to think, he literally went into the battlegrounds **WITHOUT A WEAPON**. His heartfelt stories of truth and bravery brought from the entire men's conference the kind of applause that can only be reserved for the truly heroic. His service is revered with gratitude.

Lastly, Fr. Jesse Bolger returned to address the conference. He brought to the crowd a topic addressed by Fr. Boric concerning the evil of abortion. Fr. Bolger has a long-standing commitment to the unborn. That was reflected in his announcement that on Sunday, March 20th, the day following this year's men's conference, his parish would host a pro-life speaker, Hayward Robinson, an evangelical, ex-abortionist and convert to the pro-life movement. We at Defend Life would like to take this opportunity to thank Fr. Bolger for his ongoing commitment to the sanctity of life, the unborn, and the Catholic community at large. We might reflect our Catholic beliefs and values by encouraging other parishes in our diocese to host similar events in the coming months. Thank you, Fr. Jesse Bolger.

On behalf of the nearly 400 men who attended the conference, we as devoted Catholics would like to thank Ed Roberts and the Catholic Men's Conference for a successful gathering of the faithful at St. Joseph Church under the caring direction of Fr. Jesse Bolger. For information on the Catholic Men's Fellowship, or to join their board of directors, please contact Ed Roberts, CMF Board President by calling Mr. Roberts at 443-858-7504 or by visiting the CMF website <https://catholicmensfellowship.com/>.

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